PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Applicant: Aaron V. Kaplan et al.

For: Methods and Apparatus for

Pericardial Access

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as Express Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231 on <u>November 1, 2001</u>.

Gary W. McFarron Reg. No. 27,357

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Washington, DC 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to calculation of the filing fee for this divisional application, please amend the application as follows:

In the Specification:

Before the first line, insert the following sentence - This application is a

divisional of co-pending application Serial No. 09/397,392, filed on September 16, 1999. -

In the Claims:

Cancel claims 1-15.